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## **SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 514**

Offered August 18, 2020 Prefiled August 18, 2020

Celebrating the life of R. Wayne Browning, Sr.

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Patron—Lewis

WHEREAS, R. Wayne Browning, Sr., an esteemed businessman, civic leader, and beloved member of the Accomack County community, died on May 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a scholarship athlete at Chowan College, now Chowan University, Wayne Browning excelled at three sports and was inducted into the school's sports hall of fame in 1989; he later also played football on a scholarship at the University of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, serving his country valiantly as a high-speed radio operator in the United States Army, Wayne Browning continued to triumph on the gridiron, playing in the football league of the United States European Command; and

WHEREAS, early in his professional career, Wayne Browning was in management at the L&M Tobacco Company in Richmond; relocating to the Eastern Shore in 1961, he would own and operate Copes Ice and Coal Company for many years; and

WHEREAS, Wayne Browning was an active and engaged member of his community who both served and led various civic and professional organizations, including A&N Electric Cooperative; the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives; the Eastern Shore Vocational Center; Shore Memorial Hospital; the Eastern Shore Jaycees; and the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, a trusted leader with deep knowledge of the Eastern Shore and its waterways, Wayne Browning served eight years on the Virginia Marine Resources Commission and four years on the Potomac River Fisheries Commission, including a year as its chairman; and

WHEREAS, guided throughout his life by his steadfast and abiding faith, Wayne Browning enjoyed worship and fellowship with his community at Craddockville United Methodist Church in Craddockville, where he served in various leadership positions; and

WHEREAS, inspired to share and celebrate his faith, Wayne Browning also served several terms as an Eastern Shore district delegate to the annual Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Wayne Browning will be dearly remembered and fondly missed by his loving wife, Mary Will; his children, Mary Margaret, Brook, Wayne, Jr., Elizabeth, and Allison, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of Virginia hereby note with great sadness the loss of R. Wayne Browning, Sr., an accomplished businessman and civic leader who touched countless lives on the Eastern Shore through his kindness, generosity, and compassion; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of R. Wayne Browning, Sr., as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect for his memory.